



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH &
SENIOR SERVICES**

Department Overview

We have approximately 1,900 team members responsible for the stewardship of more than \$2.2 billion in taxpayer funding.

What we do

Mission: To promote health and safety through prevention, collaboration, education, innovation and response.

Vision: Optimal health and safety for all Missourians, in all communities, for life.

Our core services

- 🛡 Disease and injury prevention
- 🛡 Emergency preparedness and response
- 🛡 Food and nutrition services
- 🛡 Foundational public health services
- 🛡 Health, animal and environmental testing
- 🛡 Maternal and child health services
- 🛡 Regulation enforcement and licensure
- 🛡 Senior and disability support and protection
- 🛡 Vital records and statistics

Strategic Priorities

- 🛡 Invest in innovation to modernize infrastructure
- 🛡 Re-envision and strengthen the workforce
- 🛡 Build new and strengthen existing partnerships
- 🛡 Clearly and consistently communicate to educate and build trust
- 🛡 Resolve access issues for underserved areas and populations

Legislative Inquiries:

Email: info@health.mo.gov

Phone: (573) 751-6003

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Who we are

Our team is organized into six divisions in addition to the department Director's Office.

Director's Office

The DHSS Director's Office provides leadership and coordination across the department and articulates the department's vision and goals.



SARAH WILLSON
Director



RICHARD MOORE
Deputy Director and
General Counsel



TIM VAN ZANDT
Deputy Director

Specialized Services

In addition to the Director's Office, several teams and individuals provide specialized support to team members across the department.

- 🛡️ Chief Medical Officer
- 🛡️ Compliance Services
- 🛡️ Employee Disqualification List
- 🛡️ Family Care Safety Registry
- 🛡️ Office of General Counsel
- 🛡️ Office of Government Affairs
- 🛡️ Office of Health Transformation
- 🛡️ Office of Public Information
- 🛡️ Office of Special Investigations



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Division of Administration

Chad Ridder
Division Director

Responsible for budget, accounting, expense control, procurement, grants, contracts human resources and other general services.



Division of Cannabis Regulation

Amy Moore
Division Director

Licenses and inspects comprehensive cannabis facilities for medical and adult-use, and issues patient identification cards.



Division of Community and Public Health

Lori Brenneke
Division Director

Manages vital records, Missouri WIC, maternal-child health, and programs that address chronic and emerging health issues.



Division of Regulation and Licensure

Mindy Laughlin
Division Director

Regulates long-term care and health care, and designates Trauma, Stroke and STEMI centers.



Division of Senior and Disability Services

Melanie Highland
Division Director

Serves seniors and disabled individuals by investigating abuse claims, connecting them to care, and advocating for their needs.



Missouri State Public Health Laboratory

Adam Perkins
Division Director

Performs food, environmental and health testing, and protects Missourians from biological and chemical threats.

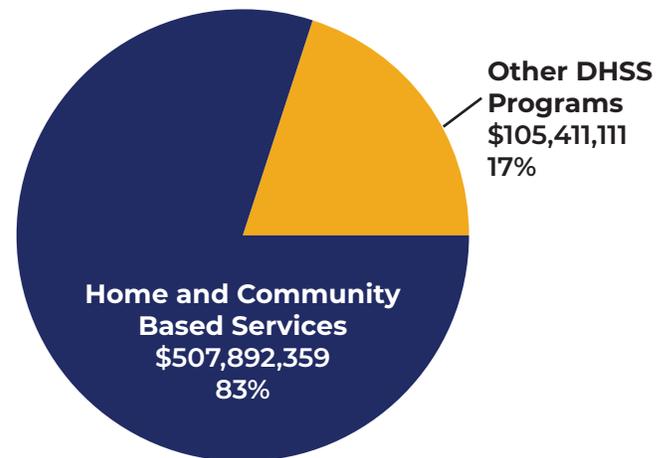
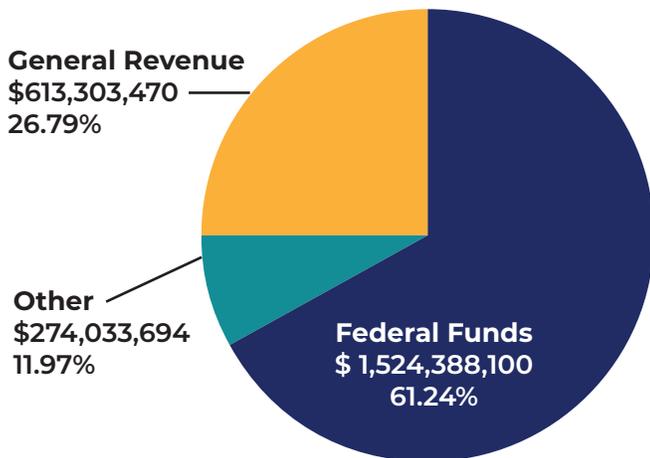


How we deliver services

Funding requests are supportive of the strategic goals that are most impactful to the Citizens of Missouri.

Total DHSS Funding \$2.289 billion

General Revenue \$613 million



The FY27 DHSS Governor’s Recommended budget for DHSS is \$2.289 billion. The majority of funding comes from federal resources with the largest amount of general revenue for Medicaid Home and Community Based Services. Much of the remaining GR is required for match on the federal funds.

Board of Health and Senior Services (RSMo. Section 192.014)

The Board of Health and Senior Services began operating again in November 2022. State law stipulates the Board advise DHSS on rules & regulations, budget, and planning & operation. The board is comprised of nine members that are Governor appointed and Senate confirmed.

Local Public Health Agencies

DHSS contracts with 115 LPHAs to improve public health.

Missouri’s Foundational Public Health Services

Missouri’s FPHS model describes a minimum set of measurable capabilities under each area of expertise that are truly essential in every Missouri community. Areas of expertise include disease and injury prevention, environmental health, linkage to care, and maternal, child and family health.

Area Agencies on Aging

DHSS contracts with 10 AAAs to improve the lives of older adults.

How we budget

Our funding streams are very diverse, encompassing various initiatives with specific requirements.



Division of Administration

- **Health Initiatives Fund Transfer (\$156,853):** This request is to increase current transfer authority to the Health Access Incentives Fund (HAIF). This transfer increase is needed to allow utilization of existing appropriations. Since Fiscal Year 2013, the Department's HAIF appropriated authority has increased, however the transfer authority has not been increased to account for the pay plan increased and has remained unchanged.

Division of Community & Public Health

- **CHIP Cost to Continue (\$3,049,459):** DHSS receives funding from the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to purchase immunizations that are administered to children enrolled in CHIP and is expected to continue to grow due to an increase in CHIP population.
- **Data System Maintenance (\$800,000):** This NDI is requesting GR for the maintenance and the annual subscription to the Department's reportable disease surveillance system. These updates will enable additional messaging and reporting, reducing the manual entry/process burdens for staff and facilitating faster communication of data for public health actions. These services will enable state and local public health agencies to provide timely outreach and support to Missourians, ensuring effective management of communicable diseases and rapid response to outbreaks in an efficient manner.
- **Student Loan Repayment Program Federal Authority (\$610,000):** During the 2025 legislative session, Missouri State Statue was updated to expand the eligible profession types allowed for the Student Loan Repayment Program. This allows DHSS to apply for the maximum amount of federal Student Loan Repayment Program funding. DHSS awards funding to eligible health care professionals to pay on their educational debt, in exchange for an agreement to provide services in an underserved area of Missouri. The increase in SLRP funding will allow the program to award at least 20 additional awards to health professionals who will remain in underserved areas for a minimum of 2 years.
- **SUD Grants to Agencies (\$24,012,525):** The Division of Community and Public Health operates the Substance Use Disorder (SUD) grant program that is funded with proceeds from the Veterans, Health and Community Reinvestment Fund. Per Article XIV, of the Missouri Constitution, the Division may use these funds for grants to agencies and not-for-profits to increase access to evidence-based, low-barrier drug addiction treatment programs, support overdose prevention education, and to support job placement, housing, and counseling for those with substance use disorders. Agencies and organizations serving populations with the highest rates of drug-related overdose shall be prioritized to receive the grants. Grants are awarded to develop new or support existing recovery support services for priority populations impacted by substance use disorder. This NDI requests transfer authority to transfer funds to the Department of Mental Health and Department of Corrections to support various substance use disorder related initiatives that align with the purposes outlined in Article XIV of the Missouri Constitution.

Division of Cannabis Regulation

- **Public Defender Catch Up Transfer (\$11,681,984):** This NDI request is to transfer \$11,681,984 to the Missouri Public Defender. Governor's Recommendation for Fiscal Year 2025 Supplemental recommended equal amounts of \$11,681,984 to be transferred to the Missouri Veteran's Commission, Missouri Public Defender, and to Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Grants program. Supplemental Appropriations House Bill 14, for Fiscal Year 2025, did not include transfer authority to the Missouri State Public Defender. Per Article XIV, Section 2, funds remaining in the Veterans, Health, and Community Reinvestment fund, after an amount necessary for the department to carry out its constitutional responsibilities and after amounts appropriated for the expungement of non-violent marijuana related offenses, shall be distributed equally among three beneficiaries. This request is equal to \$11,681,984 to assure the three beneficiaries have been transferred equal amounts to fulfill DHSS' constitutional requirement.

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Division of Cannabis Regulation (cont.)

- **Ongoing Veteran's Health and Care Fund Transfer Authority (\$1,112,187):** This NDI is to establish an additional transfer amount from the Veterans, Health, and Community Reinvestment Fund to the Missouri Veterans Commission, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for grants and the Missouri Public Defender after the Department has carried out its responsibilities in implementing Article XIV.
- **Veteran's Health and Care Fund 1x Cash Balance Transfer (\$60,054,828):** This NDI is to establish an additional one time transfer amount in from the Veterans, Health, and Community Reinvestment Fund to the Missouri Veterans Commission, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for grants and the Missouri Public Defender after the Department has carried out its responsibilities in implementing Article XIV. This increase in authority creates the ability to transfer additional funds to each beneficiary throughout the fiscal year if more funds are available than the current ongoing transfer authority.

Division of Regulation & Licensure

- **Nursing Home Staffing Campaign (\$2,649,459):** This NDI requests other fund authority to support the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid's (CMS) Nursing Home Staffing Campaign. The Campaign, which is designed to increase the number of nurses working in nursing homes, will target areas where the nurse to population ratio is twenty percent (20%) worse than the national average. Approximately forty-one percent (41%) of Missouri nursing homes throughout 78 counties qualify for the program.
- **Quality Improvement Program for Missouri Increase (\$75,000):** This NDI is requesting an increase in Other authority for the Quality Improvement Program for Missouri (QIPMO) contract. QIPMO is a cooperative service contract between the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and the University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing (SSON) that provides long-term care nursing staff with technical assistance and support separate from the DHSS survey process. The funding amount for the program is \$1,459,931.41 and has been the same for years Fiscal Year 2022 through Fiscal Year 2026. This requested increase would support a wage scale increase for this contract.
- **Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs System Replacement (\$1,700,000):** Funds for database, software maintenance and technical support. DHSS receives over 35,000 applications and issues registrations to 27 different types of licensees that issue prescriptions. The database used for license tracking is 11 years old, a new database with an online application, click and pay and certificates printed from website is necessary for continuity of operations.
- **Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Fund Swap (\$423,600):** This NDI requests Opioid Settlement Funds to support the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (BNDD). BNDD is tasked with enforcing registration and regulation of legal compliance for purchasing, stocking, transferring prescribing, administering and dispensing controlled substances by medical professionals and pharmacies, manufacturers, distributors and research entities within the state of Missouri. In order to carry out this responsibility, the bureau inspects and investigates approximately 38,000 individuals and entities currently registered with the BNDD. The investigative staff conducts routine inspections of medical practices and entities where controlled substances are prescribed, administered and dispensed, and investigates complaints of violations, including instances where controlled substances are lost, stolen or diverted.

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How we budget

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Division of Senior & Disability Services

- **Medicaid HCBS Cost to Continue (\$116,825,715):** This NDI funding is requested to continue providing Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) for Medicaid participants receiving long-term care in their homes and communities.
- **Federal Medical Assistance Percentage Adjustment (\$31,190,594):** This funding is requested to compensate for the change in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP). Each year the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) revises the percentage of Medicaid costs the federal government will reimburse to each state. FMAP varies by state and is based on criteria such as per capita income. Effective October 1, 2026, the blended FMAP and enhanced FMAP rates will decrease. This change results in a net cost shift from Federal to GR funds for the Departments of Mental Health, Health and Senior Services, and Social Services. In order to realign the federal match, the Governor recommended an NDI for additional appropriation authority as well as corresponding core reductions in appropriation authority.

Missouri State Public Health Laboratory

- **Statewide Courier (\$245,832):** This NDI requests funding to support the Statewide Courier contract due to rising costs and loss of federal funding. The courier system is a critical link in the state's public health network as it is responsible for bringing over 100,000 packages from across Missouri to the laboratory annually. These packages contain specimens that are collected at nearly every local public health agency and birthing hospital in the state, and they arrive the next morning. In addition, the Courier system ensures stable and appropriate transport conditions as specimens need to be kept at specific temperatures and free from damage for accurate results. Our courier system helps to ensure that we receive high quality specimens, transported in a timely and temperature stable manner so that we can continue to produce accurate laboratory results that make the laboratory a trusted partner for all Missourians.
- **Safe Drinking Water Fund Authority (\$112,980):** This NDI requests an increase in appropriation authority in the Safe Drinking Water Fund for the laboratory's bacteriological testing of public drinking water. This additional authority will cover the cost to maintain the program at its current level of testing at approximately 60,000 water samples a year.

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DHSS Funding Breakdown

DHSS State Fiscal Year 2027 Finances		Amount	%	FTE
Director's Office		\$1,059,361	0.04%	11.00
Division of Administration		\$17,539,956	0.73%	100.85
	Department Operational Services	\$12,373,653	0.51%	100.85
	Health Initiatives Transfer	\$916,477	0.04%	0.00
	Debt Offset Escrow	\$50,000	0.00%	0.00
	Refunds	\$401,200	0.02%	0.00
	Federal Grants	\$3,130,766	0.13%	0.00
	Donated Funds	\$467,860	0.02%	0.00
	Medical Preceptor Transfer	\$200,000	0.01%	0.00
Division of Community and Public Health		\$596,774,923	24.74%	551.35
	Cancer and Chronic Disease Control and Prevention	\$8,804,550	0.37%	21.06
	Communicable Disease Control and Prevention	\$11,930,247	0.49%	40.56
	Community Health and Wellness Initiatives	\$16,282,485	0.68%	21.16
	Substance Use Disorder Grant Program	\$3,870,000	0.16%	0.00
	Substance Use Disorder Grant Program Administration	\$175,355	0.01%	3.00
	Grants to State Agencies	\$24,012,525	1.00%	0.00
	Tobacco Cessation	\$100,000	0.00%	0.00
	Community and Public Health Administration	\$6,155,956	0.26%	62.08
	Emergency Preparedness and Response	\$16,471,183	0.68%	36.76
	Environmental Public Health Services	\$9,879,502	0.41%	77.23
	Genetics and Newborn Health Services	\$4,430,944	0.18%	14.64
	Health Informatics and Epidemiology	\$7,541,245	0.31%	55.53
	HIV, STI, and Hepatitis Services	\$100,697,365	4.18%	50.55
	Local Public Health Agency Support	\$16,254,892	0.67%	3.41
	Nutrition Services	\$207,783,290	8.62%	68.45
	Rural Health and Primary Care Initiatives	\$13,425,226	0.56%	8.06
	Oral Health Services and Initiatives	\$2,567,563	0.11%	9.43
	Minority Health Initiatives	\$451,246	0.02%	3.98
	Women's Health and Wellness	\$17,853,267	0.74%	20.51
	Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR)	\$1,000,000	0.04%	0.00
	Vital Records Registration and Issuance	\$4,819,901	0.20%	28.94
	COVID Response and ARPA Initiatives	\$122,268,181	5.07%	26.00
State Public Health Laboratory		\$19,419,078	0.81%	109.78

DHSS Funding Breakdown

DHSS State Fiscal Year 2027 Finances		Amount	%	FTE
Division of Senior and Disability Services		\$1,565,468,982	64.91%	624.19
	Senior & Disability Services Program Operations	\$38,416,324	1.59%	624.19
	DSDS Non-Medicaid Programs	\$7,449,421	0.31%	0.00
	Medicaid HCBS Consumer Directed Services	\$723,658,462	30.01%	0.00
	Medicaid Home & Community-Based Services	\$710,100,730	29.44%	0.00
	Sr. Services Growth & Development Prog. Transfer	\$8,494,746	0.35%	0.00
	Area Agencies on Aging	\$75,749,299	3.14%	0.00
	Alzheimer's Services	\$1,200,000	0.05%	0.00
	Senior Independent Living Programs	\$200,000	0.01%	0.00
	Naturalization Assistance	\$200,000	0.01%	0.00
Division of Regulation and Licensure		\$46,937,015	1.95%	390.78
	Regulation and Licensure Program Operations	\$44,906,029	1.86%	383.78
	Time Critical Diagnosis	\$821,060	0.03%	7.00
	Long Term Care Regulation-QIPMO	\$1,209,926	0.05%	0.00
Division of Cannabis Regulation		\$164,525,948	6.82%	155.50
	Adult Use Cannabis	\$14,740,563	0.61%	132.00
	Adult Use Cannabis Transfer	\$131,736,812	5.46%	0.00
	Medical Marijuana	\$5,048,573	0.21%	23.50
	DHSS Vets Commission Transfer	\$13,000,000	0.54%	0.00
DHSS Legal Expense		\$1	0.00%	0.00
Total		\$2,411,725,264	100%	1,943.45
General Revenue		613,303,470	25.43%	649.93
Federal Funds		1,402,119,919	58.14%	953.33
ARPA Federal Funds^		48,795,801	2.02%	12.00
COVID-19 Federal Funds*		73,472,380	3.05%	14.00
EFMAP Federal Funds #		0	0.00%	00
Other Funds		274,033,694	11.36%	314.19